

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

"Comfort, comfort my people," says your God." Isaiah 40:1 "Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body." Hebrews 13:3

Global Watchdog Open Doors reports that in just the last year...

- Over 365 million Christians live in places where they experience high levels of persecution and discrimination.
- 4,998 Christians were killed for their faith.
- 14,766 churches and other Christian buildings were attacked.
- 295,120 believers detained without trial, arrested, sentenced, or imprisoned.

These numbers are heart-breaking. And sadly, they do not tell the whole story.

General Pray:

- Whatever their circumstances, God will give persecuted Christians the right words.
 (Ephesians 6:19-20)
- That persecuted Christians will understand and find peace in the sufficiency of God's grace, even in their weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- That Christians facing hardship will draw from a source of power larger than themselves. (2 Corinthians 1:7-9)
- God be present in their hardship, protecting them according to His will.
- That their witness would inspire those who seek to harm them.

<u>Tajikistan</u>

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression, Dictatorial Paranoia, Clan Opression

Main Religion: Islam

Government: President Republic **Leader:** President Emomali Rahmon

How You Can Pray for Tajikistan

- Christians who meet in house churches can face monitoring from authorities and government raids. Pray that these believers can worship together without fear.
- Pray for a change in heart for government officials, so that they will stop infringing on religious freedom.
- Ask God to protect evangelists and other Christian workers who bring God's Word and other Christian resources to His people in Tajikistan.

Egypt

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression, Dictatorial Paranoia

Main Religion: Islam

Government: President Republic

Leader: President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

How You Can Pray for Egypt

- In Egypt, it can be dangerous for someone to leave Islam to follow Jesus. Pray for these brave believers.
- Pray for Christians who experience discrimination and abuse because of their faith. Ask God to sustain them.
- Pray for Christians who are attacked or have loved ones who have suffered attacks. Pray
 that God will heal their wounds and restore their hope.

Qatar

Persecution Type: Islamic Oppression, Dictatorial Paranoia, Clan Oppression

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Absolute Monarchy

Leader: Emir Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani

How You Can Pray for Qatar

• Thank God that so many migrant Christians in Qatar can worship Him in freedom.

- Pray that native Qataris will be permitted to convert from Islam without repercussion.
- Pray for native converts in Qatar, many of whom are secret Christians. Ask God to protect their faith and help them find other believers.

Comoros

Persecution Type: Dictatorial Paranoia

Main Religion: Islam

Government: Federal Presidential Republic

Leader: President Azali Assoumani

How You Can Pray for Comoros

- Please pray for Christians who find Jesus out of Islam: life can be extremely difficult for them. Pray for these believers, especially those rejected by their families and communities.
- Pray that increasingly Christians will be able to worship openly, even though Islam is the state religion.
- Ask God to change hearts and laws so that people in the Comoros islands will be able to follow Jesus legally even if they were previously Muslim.